

SPECIAL EDITION

NEWS & REVIEWS no. 24

DECEMBER 1976

vintage radio program newsletter THE trader's aide



"Bob B."

Editorial

Happy turkey and all that kinda stuff. You're perhaps thinking I'm going monthly now with this follow up issue mailed only weeks after the November edition. No such luck. Fact is some things needed to be announced, without delay, and what better way to do it than with a special "gift" issue in abbreviated form?

You'll notice a sample copy of Jerry Chapman's all new brainstorm, "Airwaves," the "new" OTR newsletter I was talking about last issue. The story behind "Airwaves" is Jerry originally wanted to take over News & Reviews in a tape letter he sent to me several weeks ago. Being in reel form, it was a tape letter of considerable length, and in that same tape, he decided to start his own. I would have been more than happy to give Chapman a "co-editor" title, but he wanted "final say" in everything. As it turns out though, he decided to start his own, which though it had me worried for a time, has turned out to be healthy for N & R. Chapman himself suspects I won't lose more than 25% of my subscribers to "Airwaves" and if I beef up promotion (which I have), there's a good chance I'll stay the same, and perhaps increase circulation.
(continued on page 2)



"Heigh ho, everybody!" Rudy Valee of "The Fleishmann Hour" fame, in a 1930's photo.

N & R back issues

There are a limited number of back issues available now at 75¢ per issue, postpaid. The following are available:

MAY 1976 (all mimeo) Highlights: Anti-television articles by Hy Daley and Tom Sills, Questionnaire results, regular features. JULY 1976 - TV sucks radio dry, CBS Workshop, regular features. SEPT. 1976 Broadcast superfan, Bright Star, and more.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

NEW SUBSCRIPTION- \$4.00 YEARLY (6 issues)
RENEWAL- \$3.50 YEARLY

If you're planning to move, please notify us 4 to 6 weeks in advance to avoid missing an issue.

MAILING ADDRESS: BRC QUALITY DUBS, 17173
Westbrook, Livonia, Michigan 48152

Contributions in the form of artwork, or well written articles are welcome.

TRADE AIDE

If you're looking for particular shows, new traders, have found some new shows, send your wants to me and I'll be happy to include them here...

Bruce Ruggles, Box 1256, North Bay, Ont. CANADA P1B 8K5-Pages 401-416. Bruce trades half track (reel) only; wants to fill in complete series of programs such as Fibber McGee, You Are There, Kraft Music Hall, Whistler, Suspense Escape, etc./ New Address: Steve Gordon, 19119 Lull St., Roseda, Calif. 91335/ Andy Blatt, 42 Bowling Green, Staten Island, N.Y. 10314 wants to know about copyright laws concerning rebroadcasting OTR..interested in doing same on a college station. Andy also mentions the person behind "Nostalgia Sounds" (4151 Florence, Santa Susana, Calif. 93063) recently had problems with his heart, which accounts for any delays in shipping orders./ Vince Egarian, 30 Manhattan Ave., Yonkers N.Y. 10707 has 1,000 programs on reels for trade. Vince is looking for comedy./ One reader wants to know if anyone has dealt with R.R. Schurch of La Mesa, Calif...I believe he advertised in Audio./ The radio convention sponsored by Hello Again Oct.30 in Meriden Conn. turned out to be most successful yet, according to many, including Joe Webb, who among other things, was a member of the committee organizing it, and apparently taped about 3½ hours of the proceedings. In Joe's words, "I really enjoyed it...it was fantastic, it was wonderful, it was great..." Joe will send you a reel copy of the proceedings for TWO blank reels of good quality. He will keep one. (5 Valley View Dr., Yonkers, N.Y. 10710) Joe distributed copies of "Airwaves" (sample with this issue of N & R) at the convention as well. A FEW FEATURES OF THE CONVENTION--Various items for sale; Gary Dudash (AM Treasures) was selling used tape recorders, Sony heads; Chris Zizzo sold WOR discs (including 22 1941 Counterspy shows with Pepsi commercials) ...Stu Weiss got the discs...guess that means there'll be new Counterspy shows in circulation in addition to the eight.....Movies with radio stars were shown, and a panel discussion capped by Raymond Edward Johnson... Dinner was followed later by a reading of Julius Caesar. An FBI script was then performed with Hamilton O'Hara on Sound effects & Jay Hickerson on piano. The convention was attended by about 160...Jay Hickerson ("Hello Again") has proclaimed all involved in the convention are members of FOR (Friends of Old Radio) as well as Hello Again subscribers, perhaps as a result of Sal Trapani's severing of his connections with the convention and the dissolving of his "Society of American Vintage Radio Enthusiasts" (SAVE) which was originally to co-sponsor the convention.

REBROADCASTS: National Public Radio will feature 26 new GOON SHOWS shortly. From Craig Walker, Warren, MI.: WJR (760) in Detroit area airs "I Remember Radio" each Tuesday...CJOM-FM 88.7 (Windsor, Ontario) airs one radio show each Saturday at 6:35...WPON (Pontiac MI.) rebroadcasts during holidays...WDET (Detroit's public radio station) 101.9 rebroadcasts during summer to raise money...also Christmas eve...Andy Stoffa used to rebroadcast shows also on WQRS-FM in Detroit... More aiding with your trading in more volume in January.

Editorial (cont.)

Assisting Chapman with "AIRWAVES" is Joe Webb, who will be putting the publication together every other month, though his official title is only "assistant editor."

It would be VERY possible for News & Reviews to exist again as a monthly rather than bi-monthly if anyone is interested in putting together an

issue alternate months as is the arrangement between Webb and Chapman. Next issue: Questionnaire results. YES, we will keep subscription price the same, but some issues will still be ALL offset as is this one. Response to last issue's "Log Page" was most favorable. I'd like to make it a regular feature...Hang loose.

Bob B.

BRC Quality Dubs

vintage radio broadcasts

17173 Westbrook, Livonia, Michigan 48152
(313) 261-2669

VINTAGE RADIO BROADCASTS ON REELS AND CASSETTE TAPES. OUTSTANDING SERVICE, SAVINGS AND SELECTION OF YESTERYEAR'S RADIO BROADCASTS. BRC OFFERS OPTIMUM QUALITY AT LOWER PRICES, ON ALL SALES AND RENTAL ORDERS. WE ALSO ARE ONE OF THE FEW OTR COMPANIES TO OFFER NOT ONLY RENTAL CASSETTES BUT ALSO RENTAL REELS. NEW REVISED CATALOG \$1.00.

DECEMBER SPECIAL: Select any reel on this page for only \$6.00 each or select single shows on cassette or reel at \$3.00 per hour.

REEL 521 Night Surgeon & Westerns

NIGHT SURGEON #36 Car Accident
NIGHT SURGEON #27 Confessor of Crimes
NIGHT SURGEON #17 Woman Loses Memory
NIGHT SURGEON #38 Lady Blackmailed
NIGHT SURGEON #39 Woman Loves Doctor
NIGHT SURGEON #40 Scuba Diver's Son
GUNSMOKE #153 Young Lawman From Texas
GUNSMOKE Tushel and His Cow
HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL Pal. Saves Friend
From a Bad Marriage
FRONTIER GENTLEMAN:
Horse Race from Deadwood to Cheyenne
School Teacher Feud
Meets Richest Man in West

REEL 437 AMOS 'N ANDY

Secret Melody 10/31/48
Correspondence Courses 11/7/48
Race Horse
Kingfish Gets a Job
Body in a Car 4/20/45
Real Estate Salesman 10/17/48
Buys a Lot 10/1/46
Rare Nickel 1/6/49
Mamma's Wedding
Employment Agency
Kingfish & Sapphire's Anniversary
Summer Cottage

REEL 413 ONE MAN'S FAMILY

Book 77, Chapt. 11 - 15
Book 78, Chapt. 1 - 15
(15 minutes per chapter)

Each reel 1800', each program 1/2 hour unless noted. Criteria for selecting these reels for this page includes quality of programming in terms of sound fidelity.

Holiday discount rates may not be applied towards this offer.

REEL 450 SUSPENSE

Out of Control 3/28/46
Post Mortem 4/4/46
Night Reveals 4/18/46
Last Letter of Dr. Bronson 8/15/46
Three Blind Mice 1/30/47
Thing of Beauty 5/29/47
Argyle Album 9/4/47
The Visitor 9/18/47
To Find Help 1/6/49
Thing in the Window 1/27/49
Lunch Kit 6/9/49
The Murder of Aunt Delia 11/10/49

REEL 399 SUSPENSE CLASSICS

Return Trip w/Elliott Lewis
Fire Burn & Cauldron Bubble
Murder on Mike w/Raymond Burr
The Hitch-Hiker w/Orson Welles
House in Cypress Canyon
Present Tense w/Vincent Price
The Kettler Method w/Roger DeKoven
Sorry, Wrong Number w/A. Moorehead
Dead Ernest w/Wally Maher
Murder By the Book w/Gloria Swanson
Mr. Markheim, Antique Dealer
Three Skeleton Key w/Vincent Price

REEL 404 PHIL HARRIS/ALICE FAYE

Mother's Day/The Lawn Party/Summer Vacation
The Picnic/Tonsils/Foster Child
Ad For Wife/Last Show/Office Work
Phil's Car/Gray Hairs/Formal Party

The James Bond/Lone Ranger/Batman of radioland's yesteryear was a Detroit produced show, "The Green Hornet."

And the man who helped popularize the role of the crime fighter, The Green Hornet, was A. Donovan Faust, who first donned the Hornet mask in 1943, as a replacement for the original star, Al Hodge.

He strikes again!

Faust as Hornet...

Faust was staff announcer for radio station WXYZ when auditions for a Hornet replacement were announced.

"I had noticed the timbre of my voice closely matched Al's, so I checked out several transcriptions of the program and listened to them over and over until I had it down pat," Faust recalled.

The effort paid off, and soon Faust was roaring through the streets in radioland in his Jaggernaut called "The Black Beauty," fighting crime with his Japanese cohort, Kato close beside him.

The Green Hornet, as most of us know, had been the brainchild of Detroit, George W. Trendle, who also created Lone Ranger and

Sergeant Preston for Detroit. "Hornet" premiered on January 31, 1936.

With the advent of television, listeners exchanged the vicarious thrills of radio drama for TV thrills, and Faust had to seek greener pastures.

Today, Donovan Faust is vice president and general manager for Operations at KOA-TV in Denver.

Before he dropped his radio role for that of a TV exec, Faust watched efforts to bring back The Green Hornet for TV viewers, but the project was a failure.

"I must say," he recalls, "I was one of several people who predicted its failure. The Green Hornet was a different time and a different place. People were less sophisticated and it soon became evident you cannot visually recreate for people what they only saw in the mind's eye."

Still, playing the Hornet on radio was strenuous work.

"While doing the Hornet, if the script called for the Hornet to be running, then I had to jog while I read my lines. If the Hornet was in a fight, I held the script in one hand, punching and slugging with the other.

"It was a very vicarious thing," Faust continued. "But whatever the frustrations of the week, when you walked into the studio with the script in your hand, you knew you were going to prevail."

STILL 'MISSING'...

"Tommy Salami" fails to surface

A lot of concern has arisen over the "disappearance" of Thomas Salome, perhaps the OTR industry's latest rip-off artist. The greatest concern, of course, is among those who had ordered tapes from him and never received them. As I mentioned in the last issue of N & R, Salome reportedly has joined the Navy and sold all his tapes and equipment. I've received letters from individuals complaining about Salome recently. Some even suggested mail fraud charges be pressed against Salome. His main outlet for advertising was Alan Light's "Buyer's Guide" along with "Golden Days of Radio," and regretfully, News and Reviews. I've been informed Salome had also made the Buffalo Old Time Radio Club's (New York) "high risk list." Joe Webb mentions people at the radio convention (see TRADE AIDE) "were shocked" when Webb informed them of Salome's leaving for the Navy. That's all the info on that I have. Will let you know if I get more.